

PART 537 - ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

537.00 General.

Environmental engineering is the application of engineering, physical, and biological sciences to the protection and improvement of air, land, and water resources to provide a clean and healthful environment. Primary concerns are surface and ground water quality waste management, and pollution abatement in agricultural areas. Environmental engineering assistance is to help land owners and operators comply with Federal, State, and local laws, rules, and regulations governing air, land, and water resources. SCS is not to assume a regulatory function.

537.01 SCS technical assistance for environmental engineering.

SCS is to provide technical information, guidelines, and standards together with planning and design assistance to insure that SCS activities protect and improve air, land, and water resources. The effect of the quality of these resources on SCS-assisted practices and projects is to be evaluated also. (See Technical Release No. 58.) Assistance provided is to be in conformance with the National Handbook of Conservation Practices, National Conservation Manual, and provisions of the General Manual.

(a) National Office. Engineering is to provide overall guidance and leadership in environmental engineering through the services of an environmental engineer at the National Office and an environmental engineer on the National Engineering Staff.

(b) National Technical Centers. The NTC conservation Technology staffs are to provide training, guidance, and environmental engineering assistance to the states.

(c) State. States are to incorporate environmental engineering principles in their planning, design, installation, operation and maintenance, and environmental assessment procedures on all SCS program. Each state is to assign leadership in waste management activities to a member of the state Staff. Each state is to assign water-quality coordination responsibility to a member of the state Staff.

537.02 Non-SCS Environmental engineering services.

If SCS environmental engineers are not available, specialized knowledge and experience not possessed by available personnel are needed, or the environmental engineering workload is too large for available personnel, the services of other government agencies, educational institutions, and private firms or individuals can be used for planning, design, supervision of construction, and environmental assessments. This assistance is to be in conformance with Part 505.